Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

SG1I

SG1A SG1I [redacted] good

NOTE Per [redacted]

parapsych background

material in:

> March issue of Sci-Fict mag "ANALOGUE"

> The 24 VOL ENCYCLOPEDIA "MAN, MIST & MAGIC" which he has.

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

April 26, 1973

SG1I

[redacted] SGFOIA3

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

SG1I

In line with our past discussions on the subject, I have enclosed a recent book of Koestler's and a paperback which, in lay terms, describes certain published work on psychic phenomenon reported mainly by the Soviets. I think you will find the former intellectually stimulating and the latter of general interest (particularly as it refers to the belief that the capability to act as a transmitter or receiver can be taught or learned by just about anybody).

I would suspect that the material described in the paperback evolved during one or more of the 'honeymoon' periods between particular Soviet regimes. I doubt very much that anything they are presently doing in these areas is being reported. I do think there is a good-to-high probability that they have work underway in such research and if only a small portion of what is in these two publications can be shown to be factual, then it is likely that it is being pursued with vigor. Personally, I have an intuitive feeling (possibly based on my readings on the Russians) that this type of research would hold a very high level of interest for their thought processes and "gestalt".

I am utterly convinced that the intelligence community should be looking objectively, but definitively, at certain aspects of the reported communication phenomenon associated with human biology. I am of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that important findings are going to be made in these areas and that the understanding of the mechanisms of knowledge translation in distance and time between biological systems could have a potentially significant impact on the country's future defense posture.

Perhaps more important is the likely impact on GNP*. Underlying the entire medical understanding of the biophysics/biochemistry of the brain appears to be the quite enormous return in a vastly improved optimization of human material: Correctives associated with physical and mental illnesses; vastly improved and highly efficient learning cycles for special groups and children; methods by which mechanistic monitoring of the physiological in individuals and/or groups permit markedly enhanced ability to predict action and performance from these individuals or groups under the stress of externally applied stimuli.

*Consider, for example, the most recent figures and projections for the impact of the last decade of space research on GNP. It is estimated that in the period 1959-1969, some $29 billion was expended in space research. From this research, some $56 billion was generated in return to the economy through 1970 and $207 billion return is projected through 1987.

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

SG1I

[redacted]

What is needed is a major policy decision by a funding source to engage in an adequately funded program of long-term (5-10 years) duration in human biology. It has to be recognized at the policy-making level that "going in" it is quite unlikely that, in the near term, any earthshaking achievement is going to be made. My own belief is that it might take an absolutely first-class team 3-5 years to begin to get a grasp of the problem! It is of that magnitude.

Yet, from such a program, there might very well be a relatively rapid fall-out of highly usable techniques, analyses and 'black boxes' in a (new) scientific area of considerable value to the funding source. By this I mean that while the long-term objectives and the prime vector of the program was a fundamental understanding of human biology, a great deal of significant, and in a sense "fundable", projects could be identified and implemented.

If one were to be cynical (and I am not a cynical man, but pride myself on being both pragmatic and compassionate), then one might state simply that, to get the needed science done, a certain degree of practical problem solving for the operational people is both intelligent and desirable. In the same vein, the scientists and their staffs involved in the work must be protected and supported by individuals working for or with the funding establishment who are worldly and knowledgeable as to how the "system" must be manipulated and handled if it is to be a continuing and enthusiastic source of money for the work undertaken.

The life sciences are becoming increasingly important and it seems to me, from my limited viewpoint, that you cannot afford to ignore those aspects of of these disciplines of significance or potential significance to your charter - the long term strategic inference is too critical.

I apologize for the length of this letter which, somehow, got away from me. However, I do want to talk with you some on this subject for I have some ideas as to how one might proceed and an initial cast of characters.

Most cordially,

Bob

Robert P. Gow

RPG/br

Encl. - Books

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5

DEVELCO, INC.

ROBERT P. GOW
President

530 Logue Avenue
Mountain View, Calif. 94040
(415) 969-1600

Approved For Release 2001/03/07 : CIA-RDP96-00787R000400100013-5